

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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INFO PANCANAL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PN

SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN ARRESTED FOR DEMONSTRATING OR "CONSPIRING"

SUMMARY: REPORTS FROM DIFFERING SOURCES, OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL, ON THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PANAMANIAN ARRESTED IN THE PAST TWO DAYS, EITHER IN STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS AND ATTENDANT STREET VIOLENCE OR INVOLVED IN THE ALLEGED "CONSPIRACY", ARE CONFUSING AND INCOMPLETE. EMBASSY IS CONVINCED THAT IN THE COURSE OF THE RECENT DISTURBANCES AS MANY AS 500 PERSONS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP BY THE GUARDIA NACIONAL (GN), THOUGH PROBABLY MOST HAVE ALREADY BEEN RELEASED. END SUMMARY.

1. STUDENTS AND "ANTI-SOCIAL ELEMENTS" THERE WERE REPORTS ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS (SEPT. 10) THAT BETWEEN 100 AND 200 STUDENTS HAD BEEN ARRESTED BY THE GN. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT MANY OF THAT GROUP (ALMOST ENTIRELY SECONDARY STUDENTS) ARE STILL BEING HELD. IN THE FOLLOWING DAYS OTHER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WERE ARRESTED ALONG WITH SIZEABLE NUMBERS OF HOODLUMS. THE LATTER GROUP HAS UNDOUBTEDLY RECEIVED LITTLE MERCY FROM THE GN, AND SEPT. 20 EVENING PAPER REPORTED THAT 71 "ANTISOCIALS" HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS ON COIBA ISLAND

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PENAL COLONY. PRESS REPORT SAID THAT NO STUDENTS WERE

INCLUDED IN THE 71, BUT WE CANNOT CONFIRM THAT.

2. IN SEPT. 20 CONFRONTATION BETWEEN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND THE GN APPROXIMATELY 150 PERSONS WERE TAKEN TO THE MODELO JAIL. A GN SERGEANT TOLD ONE EMBASSY SOURCE THAT THE JAIL WAS OVERFLOWING. (SEE PANAMA 6554 FOR REPORT OF A CAMP SET UP TO TAKE THE OVERFLOW.) OUR ESTIMATE IS THAT, CONSERVATIVELY, 500 PERSONS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED IN THE COURSE OF THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS AND STREET VIOLENCE.

3. STUDENT LEADERS. WE HAVE RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT GRACIELA DIXON, PRESIDENT OF THE LAW STUDENTS CENTER (CED) AND JORGE AVILA, PRESIDENT OF ARCHITECTURE STUDENT ASSOCIATION WERE ARRESTED. (IT APPEARS THAT AVILA HAS ALREADY BEEN RELEASED.) THERE HAVE BEEN PERSISTENT RUMORS THAT A GROUP OF NON-GOVERNMENT LEFTIST STUDENT ACTIVISTS (FER, LSR PRINCIPALLY) WERE PICKED UP BY THE GN AND SENT TO ECUADOR. WE ARE TRYING TO CHECK THE TRUTH OF THOSE RUMORS.

4. "CONSPIRATORS". THE SCENE HERE IS CONFUSED ALSO. HUMBERTO LOPEZ AND MRS. RUBEN CARLES HEAVE SOUGHT REFUGE IN THE CANAL ZONE. (MRS. CARLES PLANS TO LEAVE THE CANAL ZONE ON SEPT. 23 FOR THE U.S.) MRS. GONZALEZ DE LA LASTRA IS IN THE ZONE AS WELL. NO ONE KNOWS--OR WILL SAY--WHERE CARLOS GONZALEZ DE LA LASTRA IS. EUSEBIO MARCHOSKY IS IN MIAMI. HIS BROTHER LEO HAS BEEN ARRESTED BY THE GN AND, AS OF NNWB, #IS STILL IN THEIR CUSTODY.

5. SEPTEMBER 17 PAPERS REPORTED THE ARREST OF ALMA ROBLES (SISTER OF JANUARY EXILE WINSTON ROBLES), BLANCA MARCHOSKY (EUSEBIO MARCHOSKY'S WIFE--RELEASED SEPT. 21), FULVIA AMERICA MORALES, FOR ALLEGEDLY TRYING TO ORGANIZE A WOMEN'S "EMPTY POT" MARCH A LA CHILE. THESE THREE WERE LISTED AS THE RINGLEADERS. PAPER ALSO LISTED AS PRESUMED MEMBERS OF THE "EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE" OF THIS MOVEMENT THE FOLLOWING: NENA SAAVEDRA, OLGA ARCHULETA (WIFE OF LUIS ARCHULETA, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PANCANAL EMPLOYEE AT WHOSE HOUSE SOME OF THE PLOTTERS' MEETINGS SUPPOSEDLY TOOK PLACE), YODALYS AROSEMENA, OTILIA TEJEIRA, NANDI TRIBALDOS, QUERUBE CARLES (TOOK REFUGE IN THE ZONE), MAUI ST. MALO, MEQUI BATISTA, VILMA GONZALEZ, LUPE RAMIREZ, BLANCA CHU, MARTA ESTELA VALLARINO, MARIA PICOTA, MARIA ELENA ZARAK, LILIANA ARIAS, OLGA OLLER, PATTY FERAUD, JETSY FERAYD, ELSA GARCIA, BEATRIZ ARBELAEZ, ELIDA QUIJANO, JUDY

SANCHEZ, MAMIS GALINDO, CARMEN WEEDEN (RELATED TO THE EXILED WEEDEN BROTHERS); TWO OTHERS, GRACIELA AND NAZARENA NAVAS KING ALSO ACCUSED. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ALL THESE HAVE BEEN ARRESTED (MRS. ARCHULETA OF COURSE HAS NOT), BUT IT IS A HIGH POSSIBILITY THAT ALL EXCEPT FOR HER HAVE AT LEAST BEEN QUESTIONED. ALL OF THESE WOMEN BELONG TO THE UPPER OR UPPER-MIDDLE CLASS IN THIS CITY.

6. REPORTS RECEIVED TODAY (SEPT 22) INDICATE THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE APPROXIMATELY 150 (OFFICIAL NUMBER IS 40) UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ARRESTED IN THE SEPT. 20 CONFRONTATION WITH THE GN ARE BEING RELEASED. STUDENTS WERE HELD IN THE CARCEL MODELO FOR THE MOST PART, AND MORNING PRESS STATES THAT WHILE THERE THEY HAD A DIA-LOGUE WITH MEMBERS OF THE GN AND SOME GOP OFFICIALS ON THE THEMES OF THEIR PROTESTS.  
JORDEN

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